Technology Innovation Project



Project Brief

TIP 266: EWEB/Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) Demand Response Pilot

Context

A major part of BPA's efforts to achieve more efficient system response, as well as its mandated conservation investment, is to explore nonwire solutions to achieve system balance and energy savings. Measurement and verification of demand response (DR) events will provide a performance-based approach in developing reliable resources that can be used year-round for ancillary services.

This demand response pilot is an opportunity to explore how alternate operational strategies, combined with a new aeration blower and several pump stations, can provide a dispatch resource that can help shape the electric system load and, as markets evolve, reduce the plant's electric bill.

Description

The DR Demonstration Project will demonstrate that the MWMC facility can act as a dispatchable large utility-scale DR resource (>1 MW) to both increase load (DECs) when there is extra capacity on the grid and decrease load (INCs) during peak periods, capacity constraints, grid emergencies or during periods when renewable resources experience intermittency.

At this time, it is envisioned that a demand response event will be triggered by a phone call to a designated operator. The operator will attempt to ramp down (or up) the aeration blower and/or pump stations for a set duration.

Future scenarios will strive to expand demand response objectives. This may include shortening response time, increasing response duration, developing seasonal strategies, or other attributes as determined by the team and as lessons learned dictate. Plant SCADA control of equipment is extensive and additional load shedding opportunities can be integrated into request / response structure.

If initial phases prove successful, it may be desirable to move toward a more automated DR approach.

Why It Matters

This demand response pilot is an opportunity to explore how wastewater treatment plant alternate operational strategies combined with a system-by-system approach can provide a dispatch resource that can help shape the electric system load and, as markets evolve, reduce the electric bill.

Additionally, this pilot exemplifies the synergy between demand response and energy efficiency (saving up to 2,000,000 kWh) through a single investment at a cost significantly less than pumped storage or new generation.

Goals and Objectives

This project will explore demand response scenarios that may address the following needs:

- Utility peak shifting: Responding to a day-ahead request to decrease load, up to four hours in duration.
- Balancing reserves: Increase or decrease load within ten minutes, up to ninety minutes in duration.
- Transmission investment deferral: Increase or decrease load within ten minutes, up to four hours in duration.
- Overgeneration events: Increase load during Light Load Hours (LLH).
- Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Synergies: Leverage both demand response flexibility and energy efficiency in with a single investment.

TIP 266: EWEB/Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) Demand Response Pilot

Project Start Date: October 1, 2012 Funding

Project End Date: September 30, 2014 Total Project Cost: \$1,561,180

BPA Share: \$ 70,000 External Share: \$1,491,180

Reports & References (Optional) BPA FY2013 Budget: \$35,000

Links (Optional) For More Information Contact:

BPA Project Manager:

Kari Nordquist, klnordquist@bpa.gov

Participating Organizations

Eugene Water and Electric Board Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission

